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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	<i>Application No.</i>	09/666,836
	<i>Filing Date</i>	21 September 2000
	<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Norman G. ANDERSON
	<i>Group Art Unit</i>	1634
	<i>Examiner Name</i>	F. Lu
	<i>Attorney Docket No.</i>	2316-141
<i>Title of the Invention:</i> DETECTION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF MICROORGANISMS		

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

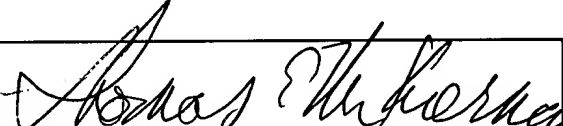
Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 29, 2002, the Applicant elects Group I, claims 83, 84, and 92, with traverse. Reconsideration of the Election/Restriction is respectfully requested.

REMARKS

All of the six pending claims were discussed in the Examiner Interview of June 25, 2002. Since all of the claims were previously considered and discussed, it is submitted that it is inappropriate to restrict the six pending claims into two groups. Withdrawal of the restriction requirement is earnestly solicited.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the claims satisfy the requirements of the patent statutes and are patentable over the cited prior art. Reconsideration of the instant application and early notice of allowance are requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if it is deemed to expedite allowance of the application.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,			
<i>NAME AND REG. NUMBER</i>	Thomas E. McKiernan, Registration No. 37,889		
<i>SIGNATURE</i>		<i>DATE</i>	August 28, 2002

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